1	2	3	4	5	
2007-08	0	3	1	4	
TOTAL:	23	6	1	4	34

SUB-TOTAL: 34

Employment on the basis of false caste certificate

1300. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons have secured employment in Government offices/departments and public sector undertakings on the basis of false caste certificates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter; and

(c) what measure have been taken to prevent securing employment on false caste certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The CBI has registered 34 cases for securing jobs on the basis of fake ST certificates. Out of these 34 cases, charge sheets have been filed in 22 cases and 9 cases have been closed for want of evidence. In one case, regular departmental action for major penalty has been recommended and the investigation has not been completed in the remaining 2 cases.

As regards securing jobs on the basis of fake SC certificate the CBI has registered 2 cases against 3 persons. Out of these charge sheet has been filed in one case and the remaining case is under investigation.

(c) The Government has issued instruction from time to time that it is mandatory on the part of the appointing authority to verify the caste status of SC/ ST/OBC officials at the time of initial appointment. These instructions have been reiterated *vide* O.M. No. 36022/1/2007-Estt. (Res) dated 20.03.2007.

Awareness about Right to Information Act

1301. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to increase awareness among the people about the Right to Information Act and its objectives;

(b) the total number of applications received under the Act since its inception;

(c) the total number of applications pending for reply; and

(d) the number of applications received under the said Act from rural places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The Directorate of